

serious family dysfunction with a community-based program providing 24/7 care to help their clients move steadily toward self-sufficiency and reintegration within the community. I thank Brookwood Florida for their dedication to serving those in Tampa Bay and wish them continued success.

HONORING MR. J. DAVID
VANDERVEEN

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. J. David VanderVeen on his retirement after 55 years of devoted service as director of Oakland County International Airport.

Mr. VanderVeen first took the reins as director of the airport on February 25, 1967—several years before the position of Oakland County county executive was even established. Since then, he's served under three elected county executives, seven Michigan governors, and a whopping eleven presidential administrations. Madam Speaker, to put this into perspective, Mr. VanderVeen has helmed the county airport longer than one-third of the Members of this Chamber have been alive.

However, beyond his record-breaking tenure, Mr. VanderVeen's accomplishments in that time truly stand out. Today, the runways at Oakland County International Airport capably handle an average of 120,000 takeoffs and landings per year, ranking it the twelfth-busiest general aviation airport in the world. In addition, over 150 corporations and more than 554 aircraft have entrusted the airport to serve as a base of operations, which contributes \$1 billion annually to the local economy of southeast Michigan.

Even our state's notorious winter storms, the bane of so many airports across the Midwest, have been no match for Mr. VanderVeen. Among his proudest achievements is that the runways never once closed due to snow or ice—the airport's steadfast ground crews have worked around the clock to keep them operational, including in 1982 when football fans flew in from all over the country to see Super Bowl XVI at the Pontiac Silverdome.

Simply put, for more than half a century, Mr. VanderVeen's leadership has been a touchstone of Oakland County government. He doesn't just have institutional knowledge, he is the institution. And while others may have come and gone, Mr. VanderVeen has remained at his post, helping his colleagues as they navigate the challenges of a dynamic county and growing community.

Several years ago, when Oakland County's first county executive, Daniel T. Murphy, passed away, Mr. VanderVeen spoke at a service for his former boss, remarking that, "Dan Murphy set the bar high for political leaders in this state."

Madam Speaker, there is no doubt that, like Mr. Murphy, Mr. VanderVeen has similarly set the bar high for public servants—both in our state and across our nation. He has been an instrumental part of the county's success story, and there is no question he leaves his successor enormous shoes to fill.

While I understand that Mr. VanderVeen will continue to represent the current county executive on the county's parks and recreation and airport committees, I know I speak for everyone when I say that he's more than earned some well-deserved time off.

To his friends and loved ones, particularly his wife, Shelagh, his four children, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren, may they enjoy the time they now have to spend with him. And to all of my colleagues, may we take a page from Mr. VanderVeen's playbook and strive, as he did, to always put service before self. It's my honor to spotlight his incredible accomplishments.

HONORING AND COMMENDING THE
WORK OF GRANT DUBOIS

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

Mr. FALLON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend the work of Mr. Grant Dubois in his tenure as the President of the Rockwall County Republican Men's Club.

Mr. Dubois has served as the Rockwall County Republican Men's Club for three consecutive years from 2019 to 2021 and was the youngest President in the club's history. As President, he facilitated a change in meeting venues from city park to a larger, more accommodating facility located in downtown Rockwall. The change in venue allowed for the club's growth.

Mr. Dubois also oversaw the two most successful fundraising golf tournaments the club has ever hosted. This golf tournament is named in honor of former member Ralph Hall. Perhaps his greatest accomplishment in his three years as the President of the Rockwall County Republican Men's Club is the record breaking growth in club membership. Despite the constraints of the pandemic, his tenure saw the club grow from 130 members to over 200.

I have requested the United States flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize the devotion of Mr. Grant Dubois to the Rockwall County Republican Men's Club. May God bless him and the future of the Rockwall County Republican Men's Club.

CELEBRATING THE TRICENTEN-
NIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS, NEW
HAMPSHIRE

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the tricentennial anniversary of the establishment of the Town of Hampton Falls, New Hampshire. Known as the Third Parish of Hampton prior to 1722, Hampton Falls was aptly renamed after falls on the Taylor River, their water used to power the watermills central to the town's early industries.

The earliest residents of Hampton Falls worked on farms and in the timber industry.

The town has stayed close to these roots, remaining heavily invested in farmland. Hampton Falls is home to Applecrest Orchards, the town's largest employer, New Hampshire's oldest and largest orchard and the oldest continuously operated orchard in the nation.

In 1735, a mere 13 years after its establishment, Hampton Falls fell victim to a horrible bout of Throat Distemper that caused more than 200 deaths in the small population of less than 500, and that left only two homes in the community untouched. Since those troubling times, the town has flourished, reaching a population of more than 2,300. Hampton Falls is a small but mighty town, dedicated to maintaining its lands and protecting our environment. If the past three centuries are any indication on the future, Hampton Falls is sure to persevere and prosper for years to come.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to congratulate the Town of Hampton Falls on this incredible milestone. I look forward to a continued partnership with Hampton Falls and its residents who I am proud to represent in Congress.

RECOGNIZING DR. JOELY
PROUDFIT AS MY CONSTITUENT
OF THE MONTH

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Carlsbad resident, educator, and fierce advocate for Indigenous peoples, Dr. Joely Proudfit, for my December Constituent of the Month. A Native Southern Californian and a Luiseño/Payómkawichum woman, Dr. Proudfit first tapped into her passion for activism in college as a way for her to stay connected to her Native ancestry and support Native peoples. As the first member of her family to complete a high school diploma, and now a renowned and tenured professor, Dr. Proudfit has dedicated her life's work to furthering the education and promotion of proper representation for Native Americans and Indigenous peoples in media and society.

Dr. Proudfit strives to serve as a role model to Native youth by encouraging all who enter her classroom that anyone can achieve success with self-determination and a desire for knowledge. Dr. Proudfit also uses her platform as an educator and highly visible advocate to shed light on the harmful stereotypes and false narratives perpetuated around American Indians and to change perceptions of tribal communities.

What makes California's 49th District so special is the rich blending of cultures, backgrounds, and walks of life throughout our communities. The voices and stories of Native Americans have fallen to the shadows far too often. I am so grateful to have leaders and role models like Dr. Proudfit who are the voices we need for these communities to be seen and heard. The contributions and voices of Native and Indigenous peoples are fundamental to our national story, and Dr. Proudfit's work to lift up tribal communities has made our community and our country stronger. I'm proud to recognize her as my December Constituent of the Month.